

REMARKS

Applicant submits the present amendment in response to the Office Action dated January 19, 2007. Applicant has amended the claims for the purpose of putting the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Schlesener (DE 10101642 A1). Claim 1 has been amended to define over Schlesener and the prior art of record by including the locking mechanism for locking the receptor portion in the extended position. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include the locking mechanism having an arm protruding from an exterior surface of the container receptor portion toward the carrier portion and the flange protruding from an interior surface of the carrier portion toward the container receptor portion. The arm is spaced apart from and generally parallel with a radially outwardly extending rim of the container receptor portion. The flange is aligned in the axial direction between the arm and the rim when the container receptor portion is in the extended position. The flange is retained between the arm and the rim after the rotation of the at least one container receptor portion in the first direction to maintain the at least one container receptor portion in the extended position.

Schlesener discloses a slot and pin arrangement for locking the receptor portion in the extended position. This slot and pin arrangement is typical in the prior art of record. Schlesener and the prior art of record, however, both individually and cumulatively fail to disclose the locking mechanism as defined in claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated in the prior art of record. As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claim 1. Applicant further requests

withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claim 5 on the basis of dependency from allowable base claim 1. Applicant believes claims 1 and 5 to be in condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully requests a notice indicating such allowance of claims 1 and 5.

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 are cancelled.

Applicant submits new claims 11-13, which provide additional limitations related to the locking mechanism. Claim 11 defines the flange as being generally parallel with the arm. Claim 12 defines the arm as having a boss that extends generally axially toward the rim of the container receptor portion, while claim 13 defines a recess that is complementary with the boss and receives the boss therein to resist rotation of the container receptor portion relative to the carrier portion. As these features are not found in the prior art of record, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 11-13 on an independent basis, as well as on the basis of dependency from allowable base claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests a notice indicating such allowance of claims 11-13.

Applicant also submits the replacement sheets for Figures 3 and 4, which provide the numerals for the various features of the locking mechanism as referenced in the specification. No new matter has been added in the replacement sheets for Figures 3 and 4.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the instant application patentably define Applicant's invention over the prior art references of record and are, therefore, allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present rejections and advancement of the present case to issue is requested. If the Examiner finds to the contrary, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the telephone number given below to resolve any remaining issues.

April 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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